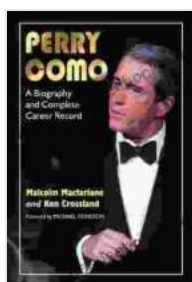


Perry Como: The "Mr. C" of Music

Perry Como, known as the "Mr. C" of music, was an American singer, actor, and television host who achieved immense popularity during the mid-20th century. With his smooth, velvety voice and charming demeanor, Como captivated audiences worldwide, leaving an enduring legacy in the entertainment industry.



Perry Como: A Biography and Complete Career Record

by Malcolm Macfarlane

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 7862 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 313 pages



Early Life and Career

Perry Como was born Pierino Ronald Como on May 18, 1912, in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. His parents were Italian immigrants, and he grew up in a musical household. Como began singing in church as a child, and by the age of 15, he was performing professionally in local clubs.

In the early 1930s, Como joined the Freddy Carlone Orchestra as a vocalist. The band toured extensively, gaining a loyal following. In 1936, Como made his radio debut on the popular program "The Jack Benny

Show." His appearance on the show led to a recording contract with RCA Victor.

Rise to Fame

Como's breakthrough came in 1945 with the release of his single "Till the End of Time." The song became a massive hit, reaching number one on the Billboard charts and selling over a million copies. Como followed up this success with a string of other hit songs, including "Prisoner of Love" (1946), "If I Loved You" (1949), and "Don't Let the Stars Get in Your Eyes" (1952).

Como's popularity grew rapidly, and he soon became one of the biggest stars in the music industry. He hosted his own radio and television shows, and he performed in several films, including "Words and Music" (1948) and "Call Me Mister" (1951).

Musical Legacy

Como's musical legacy is vast and enduring. He recorded over 1,000 songs, many of which became timeless classics. His signature sound, characterized by his smooth, velvety voice and impeccable phrasing, made him one of the most recognizable singers of his era.

Como's songs spanned a wide range of genres, from traditional pop to romantic ballads and Broadway show tunes. He was particularly known for his interpretations of popular standards, such as "Moonlight Serenade" and "Some Enchanted Evening."

Acting Career

In addition to his successful musical career, Como also had a notable acting career. He starred in a number of films, including "The Merry Widow" (1952), "Silk Stockings" (1957), and "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" (1963).

Como's acting style was characterized by his warmth, humor, and natural charisma. He often played the role of the likable everyman, and his performances resonated with audiences of all ages.

Television Career

Como was also a popular television host. He hosted his own variety show, "The Perry Como Show," which aired from 1948 to 1963. The show featured a mix of musical performances, comedy sketches, and celebrity guests.

Como's warm and inviting personality made him a natural television host. He had a knack for connecting with his audience, and his show became one of the most popular and long-running variety shows in television history.

Awards and Honors

Como received numerous awards and honors throughout his career. He won three Emmy Awards for his television show, and he was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1994. In 2005, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States.

Personal Life

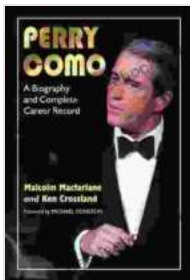
Como was married to Roselle Belline from 1933 until her death in 2011. The couple had three children: Ron, Terry, and David.

Como was known for his kindness, generosity, and humility. He was a devout Catholic, and he often donated his time and money to charitable causes.

Death and Legacy

Perry Como died on May 12, 2010, at the age of 98. He left behind a lasting legacy as one of the most beloved and successful entertainers of the 20th century.

Como's music continues to be enjoyed by millions of fans worldwide. His songs evoke a sense of nostalgia and timeless elegance. His legacy as the "Mr. C" of music will endure for generations to come.



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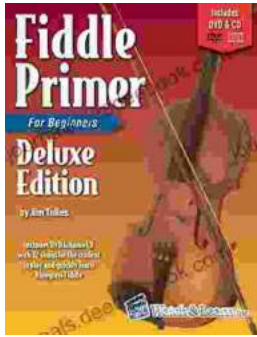
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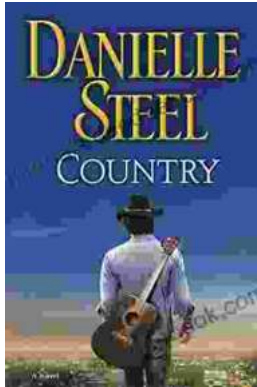
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